



IOWAccess Project Concept Paper

- 1. Email completed copy to the IOWAccess Manager: malcolm.huston@iowa.gov .**
 - 2. Send signed hard copy to Malcolm Huston, IOWAccess Manager, DAS-ITE, Hoover B Level, Des Moines, IA, 50319-0150.**
 - 3. Contact ITE or vendor to prepare for project.**
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Date May 4, 2009

Project Name American Recovery and Reinvestment Act(ARRA) Recovery Website

Requesting Agencies Department of Management and Governor’s Office

Is this project in support of a program designated as an Iowa Great Place, pursuant to section 303.3c? No

Project Point(s)-of-Contact *(include name and phone number)*

Teresa Hay McMahan (515) 281-6537
 Phil Roeder (515) 281-4294

Project Sponsor *(include name and phone number)*

Teresa Hay McMahan (515) 281-6537

Business Case Justification

Under the Federal economic stimulus program (ARRA), states are required to administer programs and funding sources to county/local, tribal and private-sector entities. When administering these programs, there are three areas of focus:

- Data exchange – The Federal OMB has defined standard data types and patterns for sending and receiving information about programs, recipients, status reports and certifications.
- Business management – The building or adapting of software to process applications, track the status of grants and spending, and handle the general workflow of administration tasks.
- Content management – Providing citizens an accurate and flexible view of information regarding the commitment and expenditure of ARRA funds and to provide feedback on the progress we're making.

As part of current technology efforts within the state, we have existing infrastructure elements that can meet these requirements. In addition, DOM’s eGMS project can provide much of the workflow and process management for the advertising and administration of funding sources and their recipients.

To meet these requirements, the project will create a system that will:

1. allow for advertising available grants
2. provide information on how to qualify for available funds
3. provide information on funding awards
4. gather and publish status reports on funded projects at all levels of government
5. provide state level content
6. provide data to state-level agencies

ITE will deliver the application using a phased approach. Each phase of development will define and deliver additional functionality and reports. This will allow the State to quickly provide the basic information to Federal agencies and citizens, as well as remain responsive to the changing requirements of the Federal government and the citizens of Iowa.

The initial phase of the project has already been put into place. By working with DOM and IGOV resources, the state's recovery site is in place and will serve as the basis for the expanding functionality:

<http://iowa.gov/recovery/>

Expected Results in this Project

The expected results of this project will be a way for Iowa citizens to follow the:

1. availability of funds coming to Iowa
2. commitment of stimulus dollars to projects
3. the progression of the dollars being spent
4. the results achieved for the dollars spent

In particular, the system will allow for:

- advertising and awarding of grants
- disbursement and tracking of funds
- gathering and distribution of status reports
- publishing state-level content including articles and stories
- supplying data, including spending, progress and results, to Federal agencies

Recipients of this Service

The recipients of this service will include:

- citizens of Iowa and Iowa governmental and non-profit entities that are eligible to receive ARRA funding
- state agencies responsible for awarding, tracking and reporting on the expenditure of ARRA funds
- Federal agencies receiving status reports from Iowa ARRA recipients
- citizens of Iowa in particular, and the United States in general, that wish to monitor and research the expenditure of ARRA funds and the results achieved from those expenditures

Request (include dollar amount and description of what will be purchased - i.e. services, hardware, software)

The request is for funds to cover the cost of software development resources to handle all aspects of the application development process.

- 1. Application Development Resources \$125,000

The above is strictly an estimate based on currently published Federal requirements and available sources of data within the state. It should be noted that this project will include numerous iterations in order to meet all requirements of the project. As a result, there may be a need for requesting additional funding in the future. There is also the possibility that Federal funds may become available to pay for ARRA program administration that would allow the project to be funded through other sources. To the extent that those funds are available, and such an action would be permissible, repayment of IOWAccess funds would be considered.

Project Timeline

Phase	Start Month/Year	End Month/Year	Estimated Amount
Scope Analysis	February, 2009	March, 2009	\$10,000
Design	March, 2009	June, 2009	\$125,000
Implementation	July, 2009		

Resources Being Contributed (*people or funds being contributed to the project by the sponsoring agency- include role/% of time or amount in dollars*)

The resources being contributed by the Department of Management and Governor’s Office include staff time spent on the project. At this time, it is not known what percentage of time DOM, IGOV and DAS-ITE resources will spend on the project.

IOWAccess Advisory Council Scoring Factors

Each IOWAccess Advisory Council member assigns a 1 to 10 point value on the following factors to your project proposal. These scores, plus your presentation before the Council and various discussion points, form the basis for the Council's decision on your proposal. Address each factor below:

1. Statutory requirement or other mandate

Is the project required by law or regulation, or is it needed to comply with state IT standards?

Yes.

Does the project fulfill a new mandate or is it required by existing law?

Yes

Is it required by IT standards or necessary to interface with existing application?

No.

2. Other funding source(s)

What other funding sources have been investigated and what were the results?

Have they been applied for? What is available? Have transaction or other customer fees been considered? Is there a return to the IOWAccess Revolving Fund through transaction fees?

Highest ranking for seeking/receiving outside funding.

At this time, no other funding sources are available. It is possible that federal funds may be made available for administration of ARRA funds.

3. Improved citizen access to government information

How is citizen access to government enhanced? Greater convenience? Better reliability?

Proportion of manual/in person effort being replaced/eliminated? Faster response time? Easier to use? More secure? The greater the degree of citizen access to information, the more points.

The creation of the recovery website allows for:

1. complete transparency of the federal stimulus dollars
2. feedback from the citizenry

4. Impact on citizens or the business they conduct with the governmental entity

What segment of the citizen population is affected? Is this just a select group or the public as a whole? How does the proposed solution meet an identified need vs. a "nice to have"? Is the primary beneficiary the citizen vs. does this enhance the entity's ability to serve the citizen? Highest ranking for most citizens served.

We believe this project will provide a positive impact on the public as a whole by providing timely information regarding the stimulus dollars being provided to the State and being spent by the State.

5. Enhanced access to government information/ greater interactivity

How does the project enhance citizen one-stop electronic access to government information and transactions or allow for greater interactivity? The most points for "beneficial" use of IT to

revamp business processes. Highest for total replacement. Average if adds new dimension to existing service.

The project will provide information on the stimulus dollars being provided to the State of Iowa as well as how those dollars are being spent. The application will:

- include visuals such as graphs and charts that include drill-down capability
- provide information that is updated hourly
- include articles and links to additional information relating to the stimulus spending

6. Collaboration

Does your project provide an opportunity for another governmental entity to share the resources or benefits? Can your project be used by another entity? The most points for projects benefiting multiple governmental entities or encouraging collaboration between entities. (May be demonstrated by letters of commitment from other entities.)

Absolutely. The project will provide functionality that will be available to all state agencies, as well as county and local governments and non-profits, administering ARRA funds. Those state agencies will include DOM and IGOV as well as Transportation and Infrastructure, Education, Health Care, Environment, Energy, Public Safety, Workforce Development, Housing, and Taxation.

7. Chance for success

Describe why the project is well placed for success. Realistic timeline? Previous success rate? Sufficient support staff? Upper level management commitment? More points for projects with low technical and business risk and high chance of success.

The project is well placed for success as there is upper level management commitment as well as sufficient support staff.

8. Estimated financial cost/benefit

Provide a rough calculation of costs vs. benefits. The higher the ratio of estimated benefit to the estimated cost, the more points.

As the project will be pushed out in phases, the cost of the project is not known. However, due to the information that will be provided, and its necessity to receive ARRA funding, the benefit to cost ratio will be high.

9. Transparency

How does the project enhance open and transparent government for citizens? More points for project with high usability in allowing citizens to quickly reach information or services.

As the main purpose of this project is allowing for transparency of information, citizens will have quick access to accurate and timely information and services.

10. Efficiency

Why is this project the “best” solution for the need? Are there alternatives and if so, why are they inadequate? More points for project that replaces outdated/legacy system or localized information access.

A web-based application is the best solution to provide timely information about the stimulus money being spent because it will reuse a number of existing infrastructure elements such as:

- eGMS as the vehicle to follow grant management
- I/3, and other established financial systems, as vehicles to follow financial management
- Jitterbit as the vehicle to allow for the integration and transformation of data between databases

In addition, this solution will allow us to grow and adapt the solution to accommodate the needs of the state and the requirements of the awarding federal agencies. As we proceed with the project, other elements will be identified and included.

Acknowledgement of Conditions for Approval of IOWAccess Project

Project Approval Conditions

IOWAccess Revolving Fund project approvals are based upon the application materials submitted to the IOWAccess Advisory Council and approved by the Director of DAS. Recipients of IOWAccess projects are subject to the following conditions.

- The Iowa Accountable Government Act, Iowa Code Chapter 8E
- Information technology standards and practices that are applicable to “participating agencies”, the Office of the Governor, and elective constitutional or statutory officers pursuant to Iowa Code Section 8A.206.
- Iowa Administrative Code Section 11-25(8A) - Information Technology Operational Standards.
- Policies and procedures of the IOWAccess Advisory Council and DAS as outlined in this acknowledgement or published on their websites.

IOWAccess Project Policy Guides

The acceptance of an IOWAccess Project is based on the following:

- Sponsoring agency is responsible for the efficient and effective administration of IOWAccess Projects through the application of sound management practices.
- The IOWAccess Project Process is guidance only and describes a customary sequence used in software development. As such, sponsoring agencies are not required to conform to the IOWAccess Project Process.
- Sponsoring agency assumes responsibility for using IOWAccess funds in a manner consistent with program objectives and the terms and conditions of the IOWAccess Project.
- Sponsoring agency will commit appropriate resources in a timely manner to the project to prevent undue delay in project completion.
- Sponsoring agency will be responsible for compliance with audit requirements.
- Approval of one phase of an IOWAccess project does not mean that other phases will be approved. Each phase is subject to separate approval.

Guidelines for Costs

Allowable costs

To be allowable under IOWAccess Projects, costs must meet the following general criteria:

- Be necessary and reasonable for proper and efficient performance of IOWAccess Projects.
- Be authorized or not prohibited under State or local laws or regulations.

- ✓ Not be included as a cost or used to meet cost sharing or matching requirements of any other State or Federal Project in either the current or a prior period, except as specifically provided by State law or regulation.

Reasonable costs

A cost is reasonable if, in its nature and amount, it does not exceed that which would be incurred by a prudent person under the circumstances prevailing at the time the decision was made to incur the cost. In determining the reasonableness of a cost, consideration shall be given to:

- Whether the cost is of a type generally recognized as ordinary and necessary for the operation of the sponsoring agency or performance under the IOWAccess Project.
- Market prices for comparable goods or services.

Composition of Cost

Typical costs chargeable to IOWAccess Projects are:

- Cost of materials acquired, consumed, or expended specifically for the purpose of those Projects.
- Equipment and other capital expenditures detailed in the application and previously approved as part of the Project.

Amounts not recoverable as costs under one State or Federal Project may not be shifted to another State or Federal Project, unless specifically authorized by State or Federal legislation or regulation.

Availability of Funds

DAS Finance processes the disbursement of all funds for IOWAccess Projects. Qualifying expenditures for goods and services obtained from other than DAS-ITE or Iowa Interactive, LLC, must be paid by the sponsor and submitted to DAS for reimbursement. In order to facilitate the timely processing of IOWAccess Project reimbursements, entities must use the following process:

- The request must be submitted by the sponsor in writing or through e-mail to the IOWAccess Manager.
- The request must include the following information:
 - ✓ Identification of the IOWAccess Project for which reimbursement is being sought,
 - ✓ The amount of reimbursement requested,
 - ✓ Period of time covered by request,
 - ✓ A comprehensive description of the items covered by the request, and
 - ✓ Copies of any supportive documentation (e.g. vendor invoices, documentation for completed work).
- The IOWAccess Manager will review the supporting financial information and evaluate it against the originally approved project.

- When satisfied that the request meets the stated requirements, the IOWAccess Manager will recommend the request for approval for payment and submit it to DAS Finance for processing.
- In no case will the total reimbursement for each phase exceed the approved amount of the Project phase.

The sponsor seeking reimbursement of expenses is responsible for retaining all necessary documentation pertaining to the relevance and results of the work performed and will provide such documentation upon request. DAS Finance will refer the Auditor of State to the sponsor should there be any questions about the expenditures associated with the Project.

Sponsor Monthly Status Reports

No later than the 21st day of each month the sponsoring agency shall submit a status report to the IOWAccess Manager if work is being performed by a developer *other than DAS-ITE or Iowa Interactive, LLC*. This status report should include:

- A short narrative of the accomplishments for the month.
- Descriptions of any changes in tasks, resources, or issues materially affecting the project plan and, if necessary, a schedule with new target dates provided.

Changes to a Project

All changes to the Project, or the proposal that resulted in the Project, must be reviewed by the IOWAccess Advisory Council. The Sponsor must be prepared to appear before the IOWAccess Advisory Council to answer questions and provide any clarifications necessary prior to any action by the Council regarding a change to the Project. Reasons for requesting a change to the amount of the Project include, but are not limited to:

- Changes in the scope or objectives of the Project.
- Changes in the amount of project funding.
- Carryover of approved funding for a period of more than one year from the date of approval of the original funding.

All changes to an Project recommended by the IOWAccess Advisory Council must be subsequently approved by the Director of DAS.

Project Disputes

Iowa Code 679A.19 DISPUTES BETWEEN GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES.

“Any litigation between administrative departments, commissions or boards of the state government is prohibited. All disputes between said governmental agencies shall be submitted to a board of arbitration of three members to be composed of two members to be appointed by the departments involved in the dispute and a third member to be appointed by the governor. The decision of the board shall be final.”

Sponsor Acceptance

Signing below will signify that sponsor acknowledges and agrees to the IOWAccess project approval conditions as defined in this document.

_____ Sponsor Signature	_____ IOWAccess Manager Signature
_____ Date	_____ Date